12303 pieces of notes in the denomination of Rs. 100/-.

(b) So far, there is no evidence that the cancelled notes presented at the Bhubaneshwar office of the Reserve Bank of India were actually those meant for destruction at the Reserve Bank of India's office at Patna. The case has been entrusted to Central Bureau of Investigation.

(c) No revised guidelines have been issued by the Resesrve Bank of India for destruction of such notes as the existing guidelines have stood the test of time. The Reserve Bank of India has, however, impressed on all its office to follow the existing checks and precautions meticulously. The Reserve Bank of India has also constituted a special team to go round its office for surprise checks so that the prescribed procedures are strictly followed.

Damage to barbed wire fence erected along Indo-Pak Border due to floods

169. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the barbed-wire fence erected along the Indo-Pakistan border with a view to stopping infiltration of terrorists into Punjab from across the border has been badly damaged and at many places washed away due to the recent floods; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter and by when the repair work of the damaged portions is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to information furnished by C.P.W.D. about 30 Km. stretch, out of 83 Km. of fencing fully completed and 10 Km. partially done so far, has been partially/fully damaged due to the unprecedented floods of September, 1988.

(b) The damaged portion would be repaired/replaced as required as soon as the area, presently totally slushy and unapproachable, becomes fit for reconstruction activity.

Communal disturbances in Uttar Pradesh

170. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether communal disturbances recently flared up in several parts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps the Central Government have taken to bring normalcy in the disturbed areas of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) According to the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the recent communal violence in Muzzaffarnagar, Khatauli, Aligarh, Faizabad and some other places in Uttar Pradesh was due to the 'bandh' organised by the V.H.P. on 8th October, 1988, in response to the proposed march to Ayodhya on October 14, 1988, by the members of the coordination committee of the Babri Masjid movement. The VHP's followers attempted to get shops/establishments closed which resulted in altercation and group clashes. As per the available information, the communal violence which occurred at Aligarh, Muzaffarnagar, Khatauli and Faizabad, 36 persons were killed and 154 were injured.

immediately, on hearing the eruption of communal violence at Muzaffarnagar and other places in Uttar Pradesh, the Union Home Minister discussed the matter with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and assured the State authorities of additional re-inforcements so as to bring the communal situation under control. Various measures to deal with anti-social and communal elements were also discussed with the State auhorities and a general alert to all the State Governments/ UTs was issued who were requested to take suitable measures to alert the district authorities etc. to prevent any outbreak of violence in the concerned States. The Union Home Minister also urged the members of the coordination committee of the Babri Masjid movement to postpone the contemplated march to Ayodhya on 14th October, 1988 and assured that the Governments would try to have a out of court settlement on the Ram Janma Bhoomi/Babri Masjid issue and failing which the legal process will be got expedited. Consequent to this assurance of the Government, the Coordination Committee of the Babri Masjid called off its proposed march to Ayodhya.

Growth of Revenue Expenditure

171. DR. G. VIJAY MOHAN REDDY:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:
SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ninth Finance Commission in its report has expressed concern over the growth of revenue expenditure and rapid increase in public Debt;

(b) what is the estimated Public Debt by the end of this year;

(c) what is the estimated revenue deficit for the current financial year as compared to the budgeted figure; and

(d) what steps the Central Government are taking to mitigate the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) In its report, the Ninth Finance Commission has referred to the growth of revenue expenditure and increase in public debt of both Central and State Governments.

(b) According to Budget estimates Public debt of Central Government at the end of 1988-89 is expected to amount to Rs. 139308.61 crores.

(c) and (d) Budget estimates for the current year envisage a revenue deficit of Rs. 7484 crores. The steps taken to control deficit and the revised estimates of deficit will be reflected in the Budget for 1989-90 which will be presented to the Parliament.

Trade Pact signed between India and Cyprus

172. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a trade pact between India and Cyprus was signed in the month of September, 1988;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of the articles likely to be imported under this pact?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.